

Parent/Guardian Input Session

Overarching Purpose:

California Department of Education (CDE) verification review parent/guardian input sessions are one CDE monitoring method to ensure compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and accompanying state and federal laws and regulations.

Usefulness of Input Session:

- Verify information obtained from other sources
- Collect information not available through other sources
- Resolve discrepancies among information sources
- Provides insight into understanding the internal dynamics of program operation
- Can identify activities that are occurring that are not evident with qualitative measures

Content and Design of Input Session:

- Input sessions are specifically developed to address specific areas about the development, implementation, access, and outcomes of student's with disabilities Individualized Education Program (IEP) and general compliance with federal and state laws and regulations (IDEA)
- Input sessions are specifically developed to address "Special Conditions" placed upon the CDE, Special Education Division, by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP)
- Input sessions are specifically designed meet the California supplemental budget language of 2000 including strengths and weaknesses of the district's special education programs and services.
- Input session are designed to gather compliance information and gain perspective of those individuals directly involved in the special education programs regarding their perceptions, feelings, and knowledge of the programs being reviewed.

Input Session Methods

- The input session methods are qualitative in nature and descriptive with parents/guardians providing information important to them
- The process is designed to allow for any parent in the district to provide information about the district's special education programs and services.
- The input session flier requests, but does not limit, information on targeted key areas of IDEA, including OSEP identified areas of noncompliance found in California.
- The input sessions allows CDE to collect and analyze information provided by parents/guardians in general regarding compliance with IDEA.
- Data collected is analyzed and correlated with compliance items in CDE database to record and track all findings of noncompliance and corrective actions.

Who is the information for and how will the information be used?

Input information is for CDE monitoring. As one method, assist CDE in the determination of the district's compliance or noncompliance with federal and state laws and regulations for students with disabilities (IDEA). Information is recorded, analyzed and compared to findings made through other verification methods (student record review, interviews, and document reviews).

How will the parent/guardian input session be conducted?

CDE provides a sample flier to the district to complete and provide to parents of students with disabilities in the district. The district is responsible for obtaining a safe and accessible facility, providing needed accommodations, translators, interpreters, equipment (podium, microphone) and staff to assist in sign in. The session is held for two hours (generally 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.). A selected moderator provides the pacing and timing for as many parents as possible to speak (5 minutes). The district administrator welcomes parents/ guardians at the beginning of the session. Someone provides a brief overview of the process and outcome, including introductions and roles. An assigned person will record responses from parents/guardians using a CDE developed protocol.